to the inform ition of Bombay market prices furnished by the Textile Commissionej, between 24.1.87 and 25.7.87, th ; prices of cotton cone yarn of 40_s count has gone up from Rs. 37.83 t_t Rs. 42.26 per kg. which represents in $increas_e$ of 12%-

(b) and (c) The export of cotton hosiery hav_e not been affected on account of the P ice rise. According to information furnished by Apparel Export Promotior, Council, the exports of cotton h $>sier_v$ amounted to Rs. 151 $crore_s$ in the period January-May, 87 against he exports of Rs. 71 crores during the' corresponding period last year, representing an increase of **113%.**

Death of an Indl n author in USA

1748. DR. BAPl KALDATE: Will the Minister of EXTERNA!, AFFAIRS be pleasec to state;

(a) whether Government are aware of th_e death of an Indian author and writei i_n Gridley, Californisa, USA in August 1986;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether thi Indian Embassy i_n Washington informed the relatives of the author in India;

(d) if so, when: and

'(e) whether tb property and other assets of $th_($ author have been allowed to b_e sen: to India t_0 his relatives by th, US authorities through the India Embassy?

THE MINISTEI OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIJRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Dr. Ram Chandra Jha, an Indian author diec ia Gridley, Cali fornia, USA in Ai igust, 1986 due to illness.

(c) No, Sir. The Indian Embassy was not informed of the death by the local authority s. They cam_e' to know of it from the relatives of the deceased, who were informed direct by the US authorities.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The relatives have been informed that as the deceased author died insolvent, the personal effects can $b"_e$ sent to them provided they meet the transportation costs.

Government purchases

1749. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Governments as well as the DGS&D buy non-ISI certified products despite Central Government's directive to make purchases Q.f ISI marked products as far as possible; and

(b) if so, what' are the reasons •tiherefor ami Governments Reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. R. DAS MUNSHI); (a) and (b) The State Governments have only been advised at the level of Chief Secretaries and Chief Ministers in July, 1986 and February, 1987 respectively for increased "purchases of ISI marked goods. No monitoring of information about products purchased by State Governments is undertaken by the Central Government. A few State Governments have, however, intimated that they have instructed their Departments to follow the advice of th_e Central Government fo_r increased purchases of ISI marked" goods.

From May, 1986, as $_a$ matter of policy, the DGS&D are required to purchase ISI marked products,, and to adhere to ISI specifications in cases of non-availability of ISI marked products. DGS&D have, however, to go in for non-ISI marked products in some cases for reasons like (i^ non-availability of ISI marked, goods, (ii) uncompetitive